

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /119 W

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R 272009Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6421

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

CINCSO

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 0841

1. FON MIN BATRES GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE ON FEBRUARY 26 AFTER RETURN FROM TLATELOLCO MEETING. HE STATED THAT THE MEETING HAD BEEN VERY BENEFICIAL AND HAD SERVED TO CREATE A NEW METHOD OF CONSIDERING THE PROBLEMS OF THE AREA. HE PRAISED SECRETARY KISSINGER AS AN INTELLIGENT MAN OF GREAT CAPACITY AND ABILITY. BATRES EMPHASIZED THAT A MAJOR ASSET HAD BEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STYLE OF DIPLOMACY THAT EMPHASIZED PRAGMATISM RATHER THAN FLOWERY AND MEANINGLESS DECLARATIONS.

2. IN REGARD TO THE RESULTS OF MEETING, BATRES COMMENTED THAT IT HAD ENDED WITH AN AGREEMENT TO HELP SUBSTANTIALLY THE LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF THE REGION. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT THE QUESTION OF CUBA HAD NOT BEEN FORMALLY DISCUSSED BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN A TOPIC FOR A GOOD DEAL OF PRIVATE DISCUSSION. HE STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN FAVOR OF THE PERUVIAN PROPOSAL TO LIMIT ARMS PURCHASES, BUT THAT THE PROPOSAL DID NOT PROSPER BECAUSE OF THE OPPOSITION OF A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES.

3. BATRES STATED THAT THE HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR DISPUTE HAD
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NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER OR WITH ANY

OTHER FOREIGN MINISTER. HE REMARKED THAT THE TLATELOLCO MEETING HAD NOT BEEN THE PROPER FORUM AND REITERATED HIS FAITH IN THE OAS MECHANISM SET UP TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION. BATRES EMPHASIZED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CONCRETE DECISION TO RENEW BILATERAL TALKS WITH EL SALVADOR, BUT STATED THAT THE UPCOMING MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN LEADERS WOULD CONSIDER THE MATTER.
SANCHEZ

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